



The Blurb



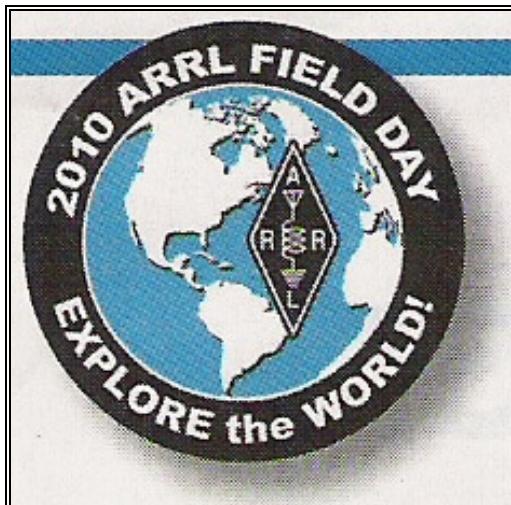
Newsletter of The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club

61 Years of Public Service, 1949 to 2010

Volume 60 Number 6

www.phil-mont.org

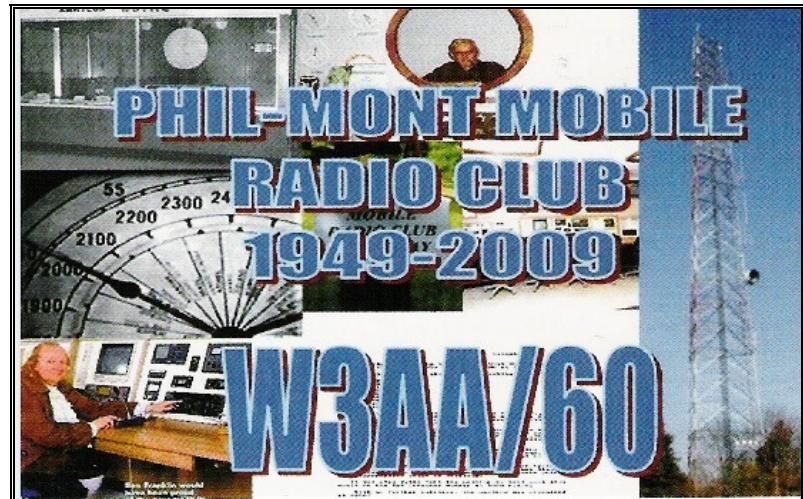
June 2010



Field Day 2010 is almost here!
*See page 9 for details
from ARRL*

Here's our fabulous, long awaited PMRC 60th anniversary QSL card!

You should see it in *color*!



The Blurb is published monthly by and for the members of The PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, Inc., whose purpose is to promote Amateur Radio in general, and Mobile Radio in particular. **Copying and quoting** is permitted with a credit line. We gladly exchange publications with other amateur radio clubs.

Requests should be sent to the Editor.

Subscriptions are available to non-members for \$12, addressed to the Treasurer.

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Submissions deadline: All copy must be in the hands of the Editor by the 20th of the previous month.

Directors:

W3AOK (12)

KB2ERL (10)

WU3I (11)

WA3KIO (12)

N3MT (10)

W3STW (11)

N3XKE (12)

**Contact Phil-Mont: P.O. Box 88
Abington, PA 19001**

<http://www.phil-mont.org>

Website: Eric N3QV &

Maggie K3XS

For club information: Contact any club officer, or the repeaters listed below. Address or club directory changes and articles for the membership e-mail list should be sent to: WB3KOJ@comcast.net

Sunday Morning Net Schedules

- **2 Meter/ 70cm Net.....** at 0930L on W3QV repeater
- **10-on-10 Net** at 1000L 28.393 MHz USB (\pm QRM)
- **75 meter Net** at 1020L 3.993 MHz LSB
- **ARES** at 2100L on the W3QV repeater

Committees

Archives: NG3P

Audit: NS3K

Blurb folding: KB3IV
& N3GLU

Directory: KB3IV

DX: N3MT

Emerg.Coor: K3HWE

Field Day: KE3QB

Internet: N3QV & K3XS

Membership: N3XKE

Net Control: KB3IV

Publicity: W3RM

Program: Club VP

Public Service: KE3QB

Refreshments: W3AOK

Repeater: W3AOK

Scholarship: W3RM

Skywarn: WX3PHI

Sunshine: N3GLU

VE Program: NS3K

Welcome: N3UBY

Youth: N3MT

All visitors are welcome!

The club meets at 7:30 PM on the *second* non-holiday Wednesday each month except July and August at **Roxborough Memorial Hospital**, 5800 Ridge Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19128
Maps and directions are available at www.phil-mont.org.

License Examinations are held on the fourth **non-holiday Thursday** each month at **Community Ambulance Association, 1414 E. Butler Pike, Ambler PA 19002**

Registration begins at 7:00 P.M. Applicants should contact Jim McCloskey NS3K at 215-275-2979 or jmcclloskey@msn.com for the latest information.

Club Stations W3QV/R: The Jim Spencer Memorial Repeater System

Ridge & Port Royal Avenues, Philadelphia, PA **Trustee: W3RM**

147.03 MHz + PL 91.5 Hz 444.80 MHz + PL 186.2 Hz

Reach us on EchoLink through W3QV-R

W3AA Trustee: WU3I

W3EM: Field Day/special event station Trustee: N3QV

The Officers

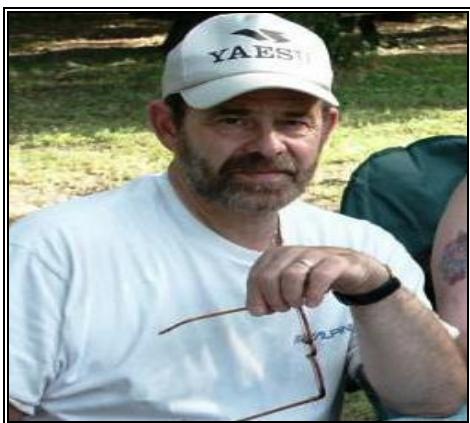
Pres: KB3IV Ed Masarsky 310 Saw Mill Ln. Horsham PA 19044 kb3iv@comcast.net

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Treas: W3RM Richard A. Moll roger.mike@verizon.net

Asst. Treas: N3MT Michael P. Taraborrelli michaelmt_1999@yahoo.com

The Prez Sez ...

June is here. This is a very important and exciting time for Phil-Mont. We will be holding our final Board and General Meetings this month before our summer hiatus during July and August. The Club will be very active during the summer as it is all year long. The Blurb, Nets, and VE Test Sessions will continue through the summer months. If you have any business or questions for the Club or Board, please feel free to contact us any time.

It is not too late to sign up for Field Day. Let Carmen, KE3QB, know that you wish to participate and how many people you will be bringing along. All are welcome, especially the youngsters. We want them to get excited about Ham Radio and get some hands on experience.

Field Day shirts can be ordered from Gene, N3XKE. Please note that the cutoff date for orders is June 9. That is the date of our General Meeting. Your order and payment of \$10.00 is required by that date. You will be able to see a sample of the shirt at the meeting.

I am pleased to announce that there will no longer be any problems with dates of events posted in the Blurb. Our intrepid and brave Editor had both his eyes fixed last month and can now see what he has been missing. This means the job is permanently yours, Rick. Glad all went well.

I am looking for one or two more members to add to our list of Net Control Stations for the Sunday morning nets. You would be scheduled once every two months for duty. If you are not available on a

continuing basis but can be called on as an alternate that would be appreciated. Please let me know.

Hope to see many of you at Field Day.

de Ed, KB3IV

***Phil-Mont
Birthdays & Tidbytes***

June Birthdays

03 Jennifer Miller - KB3MIV

04 Dick Moll - W3RM

Sue Sadwin - N2CYA

05 John DiRenzo Jr. - KB3SJV

06 Chuck Hillman - K3QLY

10 Thomas Maresca - OM K3YPH

15 Caitlin Brady - W3CJB

John Coupe - WA3BXH

30 Mike Lenczynski - KA3EIP

Fred Rice - WA3KIO

Membership Stats

At press time, P.M.R.C. had:

78 Full Paid Members

8 Family Members

4 Youth Members (Under 17)

2 Honorary Members

1 Pending Member

NOTE: Please contact Ed, KB3IV, with any future directory changes or mailing issues.



***There are two VE sessions in June-
Saturday June 12th and
Thursday, June 24th***

Many thanks to our VE team!

From the Secretary ...

PMRC BoD Meeting Minutes, May 5th, 2010

KB3IV began the meeting at 2000. Attending the meeting were Ed, KB3IV; Al, W3STW; Bill, W3AOK; Steve, WU3I; Dick, W3RM; Gene, N3XKE; Fred, WA3KIO; and Jen KB3MIV.

Treasurer - W3RM gave the financial report of the club. Scholarship - The board discussed a recommendation from W3RM, Scholarship Committee chair, that we consider sponsoring a second scholarship grant each year to honor the memory of one or more club members who have passed away during the prior year. After discussion, the board unanimously approved the concept, and W3RM agreed to prepare a formal resolution for board consideration and action at an upcoming meeting. Blurb Folding and the directory – The board chewed the fat about the database. Website – The board all agreed the website needs to be updated. Net Control – The board talked about the need for more net controllers. Field Day is right around the corner! Planning was discussed. Public Service – We mentioned the MS walks and the MS150. Repeater – The repeater is working well. We chatted about a remote location. VE Program – The board conversed about the VE sessions. There was a motion made to adjourn the meeting at 2108.

PMRC General Meeting Minutes, May 12th, 2010

Ed, KB3IV, called the meeting to order at 1955. There were 16 members and two guests.

N3XKE reported there are no new members since the last meeting. N3XKE will be selling Field Day shirts, which he fashioned a sample of during the meeting. He will be taking orders up to June's general meeting to be completed in time for Field Day. W3RM gave the Treasurer's report. KB3IV invited W3RM and KE3QB to cover some rules for the band captains during Field Day, which will also be covered further during June's general meeting. KE3QB went over the list of band captains. W3RM reviewed the plans for our scholarship program for 2011. We will be adding another scholarship to honor Silent Keys. He also went over the rules of the FAR (Foundation for Amateur Radio) scholarships and their committee. W3RM began the program for the evening. He introduced the K4M Midway Atoll 2009 DXpedition video. The meeting adjourned at 2150.

de Jen, KB3MIV

***Field Day and MS walk are just
around the corner!***

***Contact Carmen, KE3QB for details
on these events.***

***Don't forget,
Adopt a pet!***

Radio Stores ... 'N' More

by Bob Thomas, W3NE

H&R MANUFACTURING – Part 2

A practical education . . . with pay!

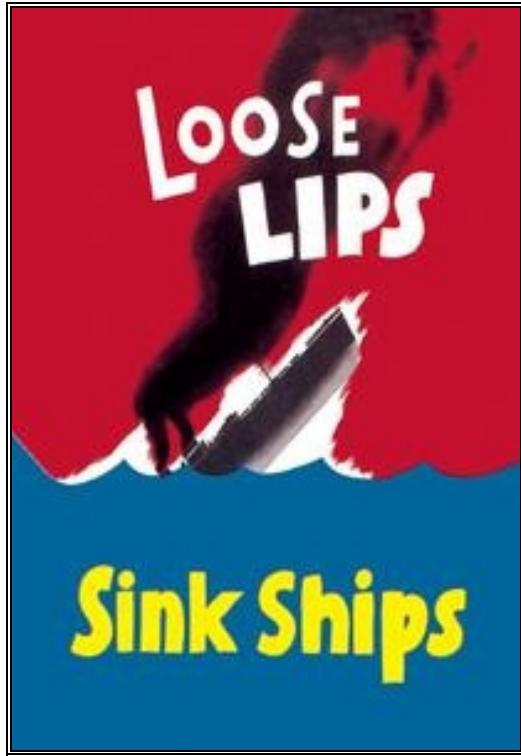
A contract for a large number of BFO adaptors was awarded to H&R by the Navy in the summer of 1944. This BFO (Beat Frequency Oscillator) was a one-tube plug-in accessory for adapting a phone receiver for CW code reception. It was built in a small L-shaped box with a socket for the tube in the top of the foot of the L, and circuitry in the vertical leg. An octal (8-pin) plug in the bottom of the foot enabled the BFO to be plugged into an accessory socket on the receiver. The case was constructed of several sheet metal parts spot welded together. One side was left open to facilitate assembly and for access to wiring; a cover was fastened over the open side after final test.

My job was to do the spot welding. A fixture to hold all the parts in position during welding had been made by an ingenious Hawaiian named Frank, who also swaged, bent and filed copper welding electrodes so they could navigate around the fixture to reach inside the tight confines of the box. The welder was as basic as they get. It consisted of a cabinet about five feet high with little more than a transformer and tap switch inside. Frank's electrodes were bolted to massive upper and lower horizontal copper conductor arms extending out from the front of the cabinet. The upper conductor arm was hinged at the back and connected to a foot pedal so it could be brought down, pressing the welding electrodes together with BFO case parts in between. The pedal also operated a switch at the end of its stroke to send transformer secondary current from one electrode, through the workpieces, to the other electrode. The current was so high it melted the parts together in a small round spot, forming a weld. Although the current was adjustable with the tap switch, this elementary welder had no control over the *duration* of current flow; that depended on how long the pedal was held down. As we all know, the foot is not our most dexterous limb, so it was very difficult to depress the pedal just long enough to obtain a good weld,

say for six cycles of a-c (1/10 second), but not as long as twenty cycles (1/3 second), which would cause pieces of case metal to burn right through between the electrodes, making a hole and spattering molten steel in all directions! But that is what we had to work with then, and eventually my reject rate dropped to an acceptable level, permitting reasonable output over the several weeks it took to finish the job. An unappreciated side effect after the job was finished, was dozens of tiny steel droplets splashed out from bad welds that permanently embedded themselves in the lenses of my glasses, ruining them. Still no OSHA! To my horror, the next summer another order of BFOs had been secured, but by then H&R had acquired a new spot welder with a timer that could be set for precise control of weld duration, so the job went smoothly.

A welcome change occurred when I was given a small part in production of the AN/PRC-5 Transmitter/Receiver, known around the shop as "The Spy Radio." This set consisted of a two-tube shortwave CW transmitter, a superhet CW/phone receiver and a 115/230V a-c power supply, packaged with crystals, transmitter coils, a key, headphones and antenna wire, all in a civilian-style suitcase. Suitcases of that era were typically made of plywood covered by varnished tan fabric with a few chocolate-brown stripes. That was a nearly universal style, so a spy set inside would not generally draw attention to its presence. A recent internet search revealed these radios were made for the OSS (Office of Strategic Services), predecessor to the CIA, and had a Secret classification. No mention of secrecy was made to us in 1944, although people who dealt with military equipment of any type generally complied with the admonition to keep quiet about their job. "Loose lips sink ships," was a highly publicized patriotic motto of the time.

Continued next page



That famous poster



PRC-5 panel

We all fantasized about the exotic uses the sets might see behind the lines in the hands of spies or covert resistance fighters. However, little has ever been revealed about their actual deployment, and only one or two PRC-5s are known to still be in existence, saved by military radio collectors. The receiver was continuously tunable in two bands from 4.5 to 16 Mc. The transmitter covered 4- to 16-Mc. in four bands. It would have been a great Field Day CW rig! Band changing was accomplished with plug-in coils, but the 6V6 oscillator and 6L6 final coils were identical to minimize parts count and simplify field operation by unskilled personnel. The coils were wound on phenolic forms mounted with spacers on small ceramic jack bars. Square holes in the radio's front panel, were just big enough to pass the coil assemblies for changing bands without removing the set from its suitcase.

As previously mentioned, I had a small part – a *very* small part – in production of the PRC-5, that being to cut grooves in the coil forms to hold windings rigidly in place in adverse field conditions. The grooves were cut on one of those ubiquitous South Bend 9" lathes with automatic-feed gears setup for required turns pitch. My job consisted only of slipping a blank coil form over a cylindrical mandrel held in the lathe chuck, then feeding-in the tool at the appropriate point for cutting a groove of the required depth and length. Even though it was repetitive, it was clean, interesting work involving a number of different operations, and it wasn't long before all the coil forms were finished.

Later, I also was responsible for final assembly of the PRC-5 in its case. We bought custom built suitcases from Barnett Brothers, who had a factory on Arch Street (how can trivia like that be recalled when it's impossible to remember where I left a pencil three minutes ago?). The suitcases came with an inside wood frame that supported the radio panel, which was held down with several woodscrews. There was a bit of amusement in the shop when one of the cases was unwrapped, revealing a note inside from a girl on the Barnett production line. She obviously thought the cases were going directly overseas because the note said something like, "Lonely at home waiting to hear

from a handsome soldier. Call Marcy at Mayfair–xxxx.” Sorry, Marcy.

There was a variety of other small jobs during that first stint at H&R, all of them instructive in some way, if not always enjoyable. Summer ended all too soon and it suddenly became time to go back to school. However, Jack Wagenseller asked me to continue working two afternoons a week after school and Saturdays. It seemed like a good opportunity, so I accepted. There were several jobs of much great interest in store for me, but also one more task I could have done without. More about that next time.

QST: To all Radio Amateurs living, working, and/or driving in/through New Jersey
Priority: High

The New Jersey Assembly has passed a bill that would require that “driver inattention” be noted in traffic accidents reports. Driver distractions are defined as including, “citizens band radios.”

Does the average police officer - although otherwise highly trained - know the difference between a “CB Radio” and “Amateur Radio”?

If you are ever involved in so much as a fender-bender, a police officer will write on the accident report that you were distracted. How do you think that will affect your vehicle insurance rate?

Why should ANY 2-way radio be branded as a distraction? Beware that NJ courts have a history of ruling very broadly when giving their interpretation of definitions found in legislation.

Companion Senate Bill S-1393 has been pending in the Senate Transportation Committee since February. It could be brought up for a vote at any time after the state budget process is finished.

Does Amateur Radio contribute to accidents, or public safety? If you agree that Amateur Radio is a public service, here is what you need to do:

- 1a. Visit the NJ Legislature website. Find and contact your local State Senator
<http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/members/legsearch.asp>
- b. Contact Senator Richard J. Codey, the Senate sponsor of S-1393: 449 Mount Pleasant Ave., West Orange, NJ 07052 Phone 1-973-731-6770

(or e-mail through the
<http://www.njleg.state.nj.us> website)

2. Contact Governor Christie and tell him how you feel

<http://www.state.nj.us/governor/contact/>
POB 001, Trenton, NJ 08625 1-609-292-6000
Politely remind them that Amateur Radio is a Public Service. Let them know how this bill will negatively affect our ability to save lives and communicate in emergencies. Let them know that Amateur Radio deserves an exemption!

3. Forward this to ALL radio operators living, working, and/or driving in/through NJ.

PS. YOU SHOULD KNOW that this is not the NJ Legislature's first attempt at something like this. But, they seem determined to keep trying until they succeed. Thanks to your help, we got exemptions in similar proposed bills in the past. Now, we need your help again! We must always be vigilant and on-guard to protect Amateur Radio and the vital Public Service Resource that it is. The radio you save could be your own. Please drive carefully.

Provided as a public service by The Cherryville Repeater Association, II, Inc., POB 308, Quakertown, NJ 08868, <http://www.qsl.net/w2cra/>. For more information about this release, e-mail: <cherryvillelobbyist@yahoo.com>.



W3RM warms up for Field Day

For Sale:

Double Braided Dacron Rope 3/16 diameter.
Black in color. Will cut to requested length. \$0.14 per foot.

Mosley TA-33 beam \$100.00 each (2 available)
Cushcraft A-3 beam \$100.00 (1 available)
Ham M rotors with control boxes rebuilt and guaranteed for one year. \$150.00 each (3 available)

Contact **Steve, WU3I**, with any questions about the items above.

Please feel free to forward to other clubs of which you are a member.

Also for sale ...

6 foot telephone relay rack on casters,
Ballantine ac voltmeter Model 300G, 7" rack-mount,
Optoelectronics FC-50 frequency counter,
Pagel Electronics 6-VHF-A frequency counter,
National One-Ten VHF super-regen receiver, c. 1936, restored.

ARRL handbooks 1933 - onward
RCA Aerola Senior, 1-tube battery receiver
Rider's Perpetual Troubleshooter's Manuals Volumes 1 - 17 plus indexes
Atwater Kent 35, c. 1926, fair condition
Zenith tombstone receiver Model 5-S-228, c. 1938, restored, excellent original finish.
Kreco 10 meter coaxial vertical antenna,
40+ mobile antennas,
old technical books and parts.

Contact **Tom Bohlander WA3KLR**, 215-536-1331 for items above.

Gene, N3XKE will have a sample Field Day shirt at the June meeting. He will be taking orders, and payments, then.

WA2YSW - SK - RADAR specialist

WIDMANN, Frank W. On May 3, 2010, age 88, of Cadbury in Cherry Hill, formerly of Haddon-field. Survived by his beloved wife, Frances (nee DeMaris), daughter, Elizabeth "Lizzy" W. Spona (Michael), son, Franklin L., sister, Mildred R. Etzler and sister-in-law, Norma Widmann. Mr. Widmann graduated from Girard College HS in 1938, earned a BSEE from Drexel Univ. and a MSEE at the Univ. of Pennsylvania. He served in the U.S. Army during WWII. He had been employed by RCA working primarily on Radar and missile systems for AEGIS (Shield of the Fleet System) for 40 years. Mr. Widmann was a longtime member of the First Presbyterian Church of Haddonfield. Additionally, he was a FCC licensed Amateur Radio Operator (call sign: WA2YSW). Services were on Sat., May 8th, 10-11 AM at KAIN-MURPHY FUNERAL SERVICES, 15 West End Ave., Haddonfield, NJ; Memorial donations may be made in Mr. Widmann's name to Girard College Alumni Assn., 2101 S. College Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19121.



OK wise guy, but ***no texting!***

What is ARRL Field Day? Field Day is the largest on-the-air operating event sponsored by the ARRL. It is part emergency exercise, part public awareness, part education and 100% fun! Field Day gives both experienced operators and neophytes a chance to share ideas and new experiences through Amateur Radio.

How to obtain full information: The full Field Day rules and information packet may be downloaded at www.arrl.org/contests. You may also request the full packet by sending a large SASE with 4 units of postage to Field Day Packet Request, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111.

How to participate: There are six operating categories for Field Day. Class A is made up of any group (or club) with at least three persons that participates "in the field" away from a normal station location. Class B is for one or two person operations also operating away from a traditional station location. Class C is for mobile stations. Class D is for home stations operating on commercial power. Class E is for home stations operating on emergency power. Class F is for stations operating from an established Emergency Operations Center.

What to say: All stations will exchange the number of transmitters they have in simultaneous operation, their entry category and their ARRL/RAC section. For example, a station in West Texas operating as Class A with three transmitters would send the exchange 3A West Texas. DX stations will use the term DX in lieu of an ARRL/RAC section designator. The complete list of sections is found at www.arrl.org/contests/sections.abv.html.

Where to operate: Participants may make Field Day HF contacts on 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters as well as all VHF/UHF bands. There is no Field Day operation permitted on the 60, 30, 17 or 12 meter bands.

Quirks: Stations that begin setting up their Field Day operation before 1800 UTC Saturday may operate only 24 consecutive hours. Stations that do not begin setting up until 1800 UTC Saturday may operate the full Field Day time period.

Best reason to participate: Field Day is fun! Whether you are a hard-core contester, someone who likes to build antennas, a casual operator or someone just curious about the hobby, there are enough things happening at most Field Day sites to capture your interest and get you involved. If you have never operated, make sure you visit your group's Get on the Air (GOTA) station (if it operates one) and participate!

Field Day extras: Don't forget to purchase your 2010 ARRL Field Day commemorative supplies (pins, T-shirts, hats, mugs). Visit www.arrl.org/fieldday for information on all of the Field Day products. Show your support for the most popular Amateur Radio on-the-air operating event of the year.

Relative challenge: 99% of a successful Field Day takes place before the first contact is completed. The challenge of Field Day rests in the planning, preparing and setting up the event. By the time you actually start operating, you will find stations on every HF band and mode to keep you busy. VHF/UHF activity and satellite operation also present unique challenges that will keep your group testing its limits of creativity. Also don't forget that the W1AW Field Day bulletin will again be transmitted several times by K6KPH in California (see the schedule included with the Field Day Package on the ARRLWeb).

Scoring: Each CW and Digital contact counts two points each. Phone contacts count one point. You may work each station once per band and mode, CW, Phone and Digital. Your multiplier is determined by the maximum amount of power used by any transmitter at your site. Make all contacts running 5 W or less, with a power source other than commercial mains or a motor driven generator and your multiplier is 5. Make all of your contacts using 150 W or less and your multiplier will be 2. If you use more than 150 W your multiplier is 1. Voice modes (SSB, AM, FM, etc) are considered Phone. Repeater or Internet relayed contacts do not count for contact credit.

Bonus points: Because Field Day is really about Amateur Radio demonstrating its emergency communications capability and community awareness, there are a wide range of bonus points available. See rule 7.3 for the complete list of bonus points and which category stations are eligible to claim each.

How to report your score: Your entry must be postmarked by Tuesday, July 27, 2010. The best way to submit (and earn 50 additional bonus points) is to use the Web applet at www.b4h.net/cabforms. Input your summary information at that site and then e-mail or regular mail the supporting documentation. A complete entry must include an official Field Day summary sheet (completely and accurately filled out), documentation or proof of any bonus points that your group claims and a list of stations worked broken down by band and mode (known as a Dupe Sheet).

June at PMRC ...

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| 2nd | Wed - Board of Directors meeting |
| 6th | Sunday - KC2PMW NCS |
| 9th | Wed - General Membership Meeting |
| 12th | Sat - VE Session |
| 13th | Sunday - W3STW NCS |
| 14th | Mon - Flag Day |
| 20th | Sunday - KB3IV NCS |
| | Father's Day |
| 24th | Thurs - VE test session |
| 27th | Sunday - KB3SJV NCS |

And don't forget the **ARES** net every Sunday night at 2100L on the club repeater.

—... . . . — — . . . — . — . . . — — . . .

First Class Mail

310 SW Mill Lane, Apt 6D, Horsesham PA 19044

The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club, Inc

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